

Since 2002, the Sudanese Government has attempted to exterminate the African Muslim population of Darfur with horrific acts of brutality. Villages have been burned to the ground, innocent women and children slaughtered by helicopter gunships, and rape has been used as a tool of genocide. What happened to the Armenians is genocide. What is happening today in Darfur is genocide, even though the Government of Sudan denies this.

Genocide is only possible when people avert their eyes. Any effort to deal with genocide—in the past, present or future—must begin with the truth. By acknowledging the truth of the Armenian genocide, we can end the phony debates and strengthen our ability to stand up against mass killing today.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I join with my colleagues, my fellow Rhode Islanders, and the Armenian-American community to observe the 94th anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

Each year, on April 24, it is fitting that we pause to remember and reflect on one of the greatest tragedies of the 20th century, the systematic killing of Armenians. From 1915 through the end of 1923, nearly 1½ million Armenians were killed and over half a million survivors were exiled.

The Armenian genocide demonstrated the evils humans are capable of, and unfortunately, it was only the first of several 20th century tragedies.

As we reflect and recall this tragic time, let us call for our own country to recognize the Armenian genocide, just as my own State of Rhode Island has done, along with many other States and governments.

Menk panav chenk mornar—We will never forget.

#### SOMALI PIRACY

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I was glad earlier this week to join Senator LEAHY in passing a resolution commending Captain Richard Phillips for his brave conduct, and those members of our armed services, particularly members of the Navy and Navy SEAL teams, who rescued Captain Phillips. I also commend the leadership of the President and the efforts of many U.S. Government departments and agencies in their response to this crisis. These many acts of bravery and leadership are deeply inspiring, and we should recognize them.

However, while the episode involving the Maersk Alabama was resolved, we are likely to see more such episodes if we do not take comprehensive measures to address not only piracy on the waters but also conditions on land that enable it. We cannot ignore the fact that piracy off the coast of Somalia is an outgrowth of the state collapse, lawlessness, and humanitarian crisis that have plagued the country for over a decade. In recent congressional testimony, both Director of National Intelligence Blair and Defense Intelligence

Agency Director Army LTG Michael Maples cited lawlessness and economic problems on land as the cause of the rise in piracy at sea. Until we address those conditions, we will be relying on stopgap measures, at best, to deter this piracy problem and we are unlikely to succeed in reversing the growing violent extremism in Somalia.

For years I have been calling for the development of a comprehensive, inter-agency strategy to help establish stability, the rule of law, and functional, inclusive governance in Somalia. This is the only sure and sustainable solution to address the problem of piracy—and the instability in Somalia—over the long term. Moreover, I am convinced that we have a unique window of opportunity for progress as a result of the Ethiopian troop withdrawal earlier this year and the establishment of a new unity Government relocated back to Mogadishu. This Government has the potential to unite Somalia if it demonstrates a genuine commitment to inclusion and begins to make a real difference in people's lives—in terms of security and basic services, such as protection, trash collection and job creation. Helping the Government to find tangible solutions to expand effective and inclusive governance must be a central part of our overall strategy to stabilize Somalia and address the threats of piracy and terrorism.

To that end, I continue to urge the Obama administration, as it develops its response to piracy, to make it a priority to engage at a high level with the new Somali Government. I have written to President Obama, asking him to personally call Somali President Sheikh Sharif and indicate a clear commitment to work with his Government not just on maritime insecurity but also on establishing security and governance within the country. We have been engaging with President Sharif at the ambassadorial level for quite some time now, and I met the President in Djibouti in December. In addition, there needs to be a stronger and more sustained diplomatic push to engage with a wide range of actors within Somalia and stakeholders in the wider region—both in the Horn of Africa and the Middle East—if we are going to address the underlying problems that have contributed to piracy and rising extremism.

The events with the Maersk Alabama earlier this month have finally brought increased attention to the problem of piracy in Somalia's waters. But it will be insufficient if our response only deals with the symptoms and not Somalia's central problems. I urge my colleagues and the different committees who will examine this issue over the coming weeks and months to take this seriously. For if we do not finally deal with Somalia's lawlessness and instability, we will continue to see them manifest themselves in activities—be they acts of piracy or terrorism—that threaten U.S. and international security.

#### IDAHOANS SPEAK OUT ON HIGH ENERGY PRICES

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, in mid-June, I asked Idahoans to share with me how high energy prices are affecting their lives, and they responded by the hundreds. The stories, numbering well over 1,200, are heartbreaking and touching. While energy prices have dropped in recent weeks, the concerns expressed remain very relevant. To respect the efforts of those who took the opportunity to share their thoughts, I am submitting every e-mail sent to me through an address set up specifically for this purpose to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This is not an issue that will be easily resolved, but it is one that deserves immediate and serious attention, and Idahoans deserve to be heard. Their stories not only detail their struggles to meet everyday expenses, but also have suggestions and recommendations as to what Congress can do now to tackle this problem and find solutions that last beyond today. I ask unanimous consent to have today's letters printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Thank you for providing your constituents the opportunity to share our thoughts and ideas regarding energy with you. Your willingness to listen is yet another reason I am glad you represent me in Washington.

For my family, the ridiculous cost of fuel has affected almost every area of our lives. My husband pastors a church here in Twin Falls and we have always lived within our means. We are not in debt and have put away a tidy amount toward our children's university education.

However, with gas prices rising toward \$5 a gallon, we have had to rethink our budget and spending on items like groceries, clothing, dental insurance and home remodeling and repairs. We had planned to repair the sidewalk in front of our home since it has cracked and chipped over many years and presents a hazard to passers-by. My husband decided not to go ahead with the project this summer because he is afraid gas prices will continue to soar and we will be left in a precarious position this coming winter.

Our children usually participate in some form of athletic activity over the summer, and this summer was supposed to be golf. We have cut back on the frequency of their golf rounds and did not purchase a set of clubs for our younger daughter as we had planned. In addition, we cancelled plans to spend two weeks at a resort in Sun Valley in July and will instead go camping near home.

If things do not improve soon, we will have to cancel our weekly ski trips this winter as well, because the high cost of fuel will prohibit us from making the drive to Ketchum each week.

Perhaps these cutbacks sound frivolous to some who surely have it much harder than we do, but when we consider that there are alternative, less costly energy sources available, and when we read that once again, the democratic machine has stalled drilling for existing oil, and when we combine that with the fact that our government can afford to promote initiatives for credits on the manufacture and purchase of alternative energy sources, it makes no sense.

Surrounded by naysayers, a wise little boy once remarked, "Momma! The emperor is naked!" It is high time those of us feeling